



The United States Army Field Band

The Musical Ambassadors of the Army
Washington, DC

Embassy Brass Quintet Bio
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THE EMBASSY BRASS QUINTET

The Embassy Brass Quintet is an official ensemble of The United States Army Field Band of Washington, DC. Since its inception in 1996, the quintet has quickly established a national reputation for musical excellence, performing for the 1999 International Brass Quintet Conference in Athens, Georgia; the 1999 International Trombone Festival in Potsdam, New York; the 1997 TUBA Conference at Fort Myer, Virginia; and the 2000 International Women's Brass Conference. In addition to live television appearances on *Good Morning, America* and CNN, the Embassy Brass has performed and taught at the Tanglewood Institute and the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. The quintet has also been featured with the Concert Band and Soldiers' Chorus of the Army Field Band, and has performed recitals and presented master classes at colleges and high schools throughout the United States.

Master Sergeant Virginia Turner, trumpet, holds a Master of Music in trumpet performance from Arizona State University and a Bachelor of Music Education from New Mexico State University. Originally from New Mexico, she has been a band director in Weslaco, Texas, and Phoenix, Arizona. Since joining the Field Band in 1990, she has been a featured soloist and clinician, and currently serves as principal trumpet and section leader with the Concert Band. MSG Turner has also performed with the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra and other ensembles in the Baltimore–Washington area. Her teachers include David Hickman, Tony Plog, Susan Slaughter, Edward Hoffman, and Andrew Balio.

Staff Sergeant John Altman, trumpet, was born and raised on Long Island, New York. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music Performance from Centre College of Kentucky and a Master of Music in Jazz Pedagogy and Performance from Northern Illinois University, where he taught Jazz History and the All-University Jazz Ensemble from 1997 to 1999. He has studied with Vincent DiMartino, Charles Davis, William Vacciano, and Ed Hoffman, and performs with many ensembles throughout the country, including the Chicago Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra, the Rockford Symphony Orchestra, and the Washington Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra. SSG Altman joined the Field Band in December 1999.

Staff Sergeant Shawn Hagen, horn, has been a member of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra and the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, and has taught horn and theory at the University of Memphis and Rhodes College. As a soloist, he was featured at the Hot Springs Music Festival, and has performed and adjudicated at International Horn Society workshops. He joined The United States Army Field Band in 2000 and is currently completing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Memphis.

Sergeant First Class Mark Bowling, trombone, holds a Bachelor of Music in Theory and Composition from Mansfield University of Pennsylvania and a Master of Music in Trombone Performance from Arizona State University. Originally from Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, he has performed with the Phoenix Symphony, Ballet Arizona, and the Orchestra for the Papal Mass in Phoenix in 1987. He has also performed with the Interservice Trombone Choir under the direction of Dr. Milton Stevens. His teachers include Stephen McEuen, Scott Hartman, Steve Witser, and Chris Dudley. SFC Bowling has been with The U.S. Army Field Band since 1989, and currently serves as principal trombone with the Concert Band.

Sergeant First Class Daniel Sherlock, tuba, studied at Arizona State University, where he performed with such ensembles as the Southwest Brass Quintet and the New West Orchestra. Since joining the Field Band in 1988, he has been a featured soloist with the Concert Band and is currently tuba section leader. An active freelance performer and private instructor in the Baltimore–Washington area, he serves as principal tuba with the Maryland Symphony Orchestra and National Chamber Orchestra.